

## Ladies' Column.

### LITTLE JINGLES.

Snow, snow, everywhere!  
Snow on mountain peak.  
Snow on flippity sunny hair.  
Snowflakes melting on his cheek.  
Snow, snow, wherever you go,  
Shifting, drifting, driving snow.  
But flippity does not care a pin,  
It's winter without and summer within.  
So, tumble the flakes, or rather the storm,  
He breathes on his fingers and keeps them warm.  
—St. Nicholas for November.

### Window Gardening.

The desire to grow plants in the dwelling is an almost universal one. Some do it successfully year after year, while with others the attempt ends in annoyance and failure. There are many reasons for failure, but we can at the present only speak of two—beginning too late, and the selection of improper plants. Many put off all preparation for window gardening until cold weather has actually set in, when they go to a florist's, order a lot of plants, and soon find that they have a plant hospital instead of a source of pleasure. The reason for this is plain enough. The florist has had his plants for a month or two growing in a greenhouse, where artificial heat and a moist atmosphere have induced a tender and rapid growth. Taking plants from such a situation into the atmosphere of an ordinary dwelling, is like bringing a Floridian to Boston when a November east wind is prevailing. It is not the change of temperature that affects the plants so much as the difference in light, moisture of air, and, not the least of all, dust.

Again, others who have plants growing in the open borders that they propose to take into the house, being naturally desirous that the garden shall remain attractive as long as possible, allow their plants to remain out until the last moment, and do not lift and pot them until the nights become very chilly, if they do not leave them until frost actually warns them that their pets are in danger. To those who have plants growing in pots which they propose to bring into the house we would advise to pot at once. The plants will be considerably disturbed at the removal; their roots have had freedom to wander, and generally can not be brought within the compass of a pot without cutting back. This, of course, demands a corresponding cutting back of the top; and the plant must have time to recover before cold weather comes.

The question of soil is often a great problem. Any good fresh garden soil or that from beneath the sod in a pasture will answer for most plants as well as any of the prescribed mixture. It must be so open that it will not cake hard, and if not naturally porous it may be made so by adding clean sand. When the plant will bear fertilizing it is better to apply it in the liquid form than to mix manure with the soil. The plants being potted in good fresh soil and properly pruned into shape, keep them in the shade for a few days and then give sun gradually. They will probably be established and have commenced a new growth before the nights become so cool as to make it necessary to bring them in-doors. The change from open air to the house must be made gradually. For some weeks after the first frost plants only need shelter at night. Place them in a room where there is no fire, and open the windows every day until the weather becomes too cool for it to be safe to do so. Plants so treated will be, so to speak, acclimated, and a slight change will not affect them. If plants are to be purchased from a florist get them before the houses are closed and fire heat is used, and gradually inure them to the house, as just described.

As to the selection of plants, a wide range is offered, and we will only name a few that are quite sure to do well with any fair treatment. We strongly advise beginners—for whom this article is written, experienced growers needing no advice—not to undertake too much. A few plants with healthy foliage are a blessing in winter, even if there are no flowers. If we could have but one plant for a window it would be an Ivy. It will grow almost anywhere; can be trained to suit the fancy, and is always bright and cheery. Among plants for flowers, we place at the head of the list the Chinese Primrose. They are single and double, and from white to deep crimson. With half a chance they will bloom nearly all winter long; but don't get plants that have made a forced growth, or they will fail. The old "Calla Lily" (Richardia) is another admirable plant succeeding with the simplest treatment. The winter-flowering Begonias of the fuschoides style are to be commended. The "Crab's Claw Cactus" (Epiphyllum), Cyclamen, Geraniums, Heliotrope, Carnations, and Catalonian Jessamine would make a list quite large enough for most amateurs. —Agriculturist.

### A Beautiful Sentiment.

Let the woman you look upon be wise or vain, beautiful or holy, she has but one thing she can give or refuse, and that is her heart. Her beauty, her wit she may sell you, but her love is the treasure without money and without price. She can only ask in return, that when you look upon her eyes shall speak a mute devotion; when you address her your voice shall be gentle and kind. That you shall not despise her because she cannot all at once understand your vigorous thoughts and ambitious plans, for when misfortune and evil have defeated your greatest purpose her love remains to console you. You look upon the tree of strength and grandeur; do not despise the flowers because their fragrance is all they have to give. Remember, love is the only thing that a woman can give, and it is the only thing which God permits her to carry beyond the grave.—Under the Gaslight.

## Miscellaneous.

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